

Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Anna G. Eshoo Eighteenth District California

June 22, 2018

The Honorable Alex M. Azar II, Secretary Department of Health and Human Services 330 C Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20416

Dear Secretary Azar,

I write to you regarding the separated children placed in the care of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as a result of the Trump Administration's zero-tolerance policy, and ask you to inform me whether any of these children have been transported and are currently being housed in California's 18<sup>th</sup> Congressional District.

Press reports indicate as many as 2,500 children have been separated from their parents, but HHS has not been forthcoming about where and in what conditions these children are being housed, and how the Administration plans to reunited them with their families.

As the Representative of California's 18<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, I have an obligation to represent all my constituents, including separated children who may now be residing there. I therefore request your prompt responses to the following questions:

- Are there any ORR facilities housing unaccompanied minors in California's 18<sup>th</sup> Congressional District? If so, how many and where are they located?
  - O Who operates these facilities and how does ORR vet these entities to ensure they are suitable to care for children?
- Have any children been placed with sponsors living in California's 18<sup>th</sup> Congressional District?
- Of the children who may currently reside in California's 18<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, how many were separated from their parents as a result of the Trump Administration's "zero-tolerance" policy, and what steps is ORR taking to

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ensure that these children are reunited with their parents?

- Is ORR working with any local organizations or local governments to ensure the children are cared for? Are any local attorneys providing *pro bono* legal assistance to help these children claim asylum or reunite with their parents?
- Are there any ORR facilities outside California's 18<sup>th</sup> Congressional District in the broader Bay Area (the San Jose-San Francisco-Oakland, CA Combined Statistical Area designated by the Office of Management and Budget)?

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and your prompt reply to my questions.

Most gratefully,

Anna G. Eshoo Member of Congress

cc: Mr. Scott Lloyd, Director, Office of Refugee Resettlement